

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF CREDIT UNIONS

NEWSLETTER

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CREDIT UNION SURVEY

123 of 171 credit unions or 72% returned the survey, which exceeds the previous year's return of 65%. For those who could not attend the meetings last month, the survey results and the PowerPoint presentation can be viewed on the Division's web site under "What's New" at <http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/cu/>.

CALL REPORT DATA

2001 end of year call report data and statistics for Missouri credit unions are now available on the Division of Credit Unions web site at <http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/cu/>.

CREDIT UNION COMMISSION MEETS

The Credit Union Commission met on February 15, 2002 in Jefferson City, Missouri. Commission members in attendance were Pat Yokley, Bill Humpfer, Sharon Ichord, Cathy Stroud, Pat Macdonald, Lori Levine and John Hanneke. Others attending were, Hubert Hoosman, Educational Employees Credit Union (EECU), Judy Hadsall, City Utilities Credit Union, Don Ackerman and Jacques Sachs, Telcomm Credit Union, Peggy Nalls, Missouri Credit Union System (MCUS), Jim Deutsch, attorney representing MCUS, Patrick O'Leary, Mike Wambolt and Christy Kincannon, Attorney General's Office; Zurett Merridith, and John P. Smith, Division of Credit Unions.

The Commission approved the minutes of the October 3, 2001 meeting.

After extensive discussion, the Commission requested that EECU, MCUS and the Director, Division of Credit Unions provide legal briefs by February 26, 2002 concerning the issue of standing to appeal to the Commission the Director's decision approving the expansion of EECU's field of membership. The Commission will meet by conference call on March 5, 2002 at 2:00 PM to take action on the standing issue.

The Commission received several reports:

- ✓ Appeals of the Director's decisions for five credit union field of membership expansions
- ✓ Condition report of Missouri chartered credit unions and end of year call report data
- ✓ Update rules under revision
- ✓ SB 1106 and HB 1803, both consent bills, staggering the terms of Credit Union Commission members
- ✓ HB 1921 extending the examination time for qualifying credit unions to as long as eighteen months
- ✓ State and federal legislative update

The Commission reviewed the field-of-membership expansion application submitted by **West Community Credit Union**. More than 3,000 potential members exist within the group. The Commission found that the group met the criteria for an exemption from the limitations on groups in 4 CSR 105-3.040.

The Commission's next regular meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2002 in Jefferson City.

FIELD OF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION UPDATE

Springfield Telephone Employees Credit Union (now **Telcomm Credit Union**) submitted an application to include those persons who reside or work in the 417 telephone Area Code and the 573 (bordered on the north by I-70) telephone Area Code. The Director approved the expansion of **Springfield Telephone Employees Credit Union** to those in the 417 Area Code, but not the 573 Area Code. The decision was published in the November 15, 2000 Missouri Register. On November 30, 2000 the Missouri Bankers Association (MBA) and Century Bank of the Ozarks (CBO) filed an appeal of the decision to the Credit Union Commission. The Commission heard the appeal on March 29, 2001. On May 24, 2001 the Commission upheld the decision of the Director. On August 16, 2001, the decision was released and the Director filed **Springfield Telephone Employees Credit Union's** amended bylaws with the Secretary of State. On September 14, 2001, the MBA and CBO filed a petition for administrative review in Cole County Circuit Court. On November 19, 2001, a hearing

was held before Judge Tom Brown, Division 1, Circuit Court of Cole County. The motion to refer the case to another division of the court was granted. The case is now before Judge Byron Kinder, Division 2, Circuit Court of Cole County. A motion to dismiss the case for lack of standing was heard on January 3, 2002. On January 29, 2002 the court ruled the plaintiffs lack standing to maintain causes of action set forth in their petition and ordered the plaintiffs' petition be dismissed.

South Community Credit Union submitted an application for those who work or reside in Zip Codes 63109, 63111, 63116, 63123, 63125, 63128, 63129, and Crawford County, Franklin County, Gasconade County and Washington County. **Central Communications Credit Union** submitted an application for those persons who reside or work in the 816 telephone Area Code. The Director approved the applications submitted by **South Community and Central Communications Credit Unions**. These decisions were published in the November 15, 2000 Missouri Register. On November 30, 2000 the Missouri Bankers Association and two local banks located in each of the two applicants' field of membership expansion areas filed appeals of the decisions to the Credit Union Commission. The Commission received the record of appeals from all parties on May 24, 2001. On August 9, 2001 the Commission upheld the decisions of the Director. The written decisions were released on January 25, 2002.

Gateway Metro Credit Union submitted an application for those living or working in the Missouri counties of St. Louis, St. Charles and Jefferson. **Educational Employees Credit Union** submitted an application for those who live or work in St. Louis County, St. Charles County, Jefferson County, Cape Girardeau County and Franklin County. These applications were published in the December 15, 2000 Missouri Register. The Director approved the applications and his decisions were published in the February 15, 2001 Missouri Register. On March 1, 2001 the Missouri Bankers Association and two local banks located in each of the applicants' field of membership expansion areas filed appeals of the decisions to the Credit Union Commission. The Commission received the record of appeal of **Educational Employees Credit Union** on October 19, 2001 and established briefing schedules. No date has been established to hear the **Gateway Metro Credit Union** appeal.

City Utilities Credit Union submitted an application for community residents and workers in Greene and Christian Counties. The application was published in the June 1, 2001 Missouri Register. The Director approved the application and the decision was published in the August 1, 2001 Missouri Register. On August 14, 2001 the Missouri Bankers Association and a local bank located within the applicant's field of membership expansion area filed an appeal of the decision to the

Credit Union Commission. The Commission will schedule a date to hear the appeal.

St. Louis Community Credit Union submitted an application for individuals who live or work in Zip Codes 63111, 63118, 63119, 63143, and 63144. **Electro Savings Credit Union** submitted an application for individuals who reside or work in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County and Jefferson County. **St. Louis Telephone Employees' Credit Union** submitted an application for individuals who reside or work in St. Louis County, St. Charles County, Jefferson County and Franklin County. **Northwest Missouri Regional Credit Union** submitted an application for any persons who reside or work in Nodaway County. These four applications were published in the December 3, 2001 Missouri Register. The Director approved the applications and his decisions were published in the January 16, 2002 Missouri Register. The decisions are now final.

JC Federal Employees Credit Union submitted an application for family members of members. The application will be published in the March 1, 2002 Missouri Register.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Identity theft:

Identity thieves steal personal information, such as a credit card account number, Social Security number or driver's license number. Then they open up accounts in the person's name and run up charges on the account. Or, they use the personal information to charge goods and services to the person's existing accounts. The harm to the person's credit and daily life can be devastating. Victims of identity theft often have trouble obtaining new credit cards or loans because of the damage to their credit ratings.

According to the ID Theft Data Clearinghouse, the following are the most common types of identity theft:

- Using or opening a credit card account fraudulently.
- Opening telecommunications or utility accounts fraudulently.
- Passing bad checks or opening a new bank account.
- Getting loans in another person's name.
- Working in another person's name.

For additional information on identity theft, access the Federal Trade Commission's web site at <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>.



John P. Smith, Director